

Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee

Minutes from November 17

Attendance:

Committee Members: Candace White Bouchard, Andrea Goldberg, Janet Schofield, James Bouley, Elizabeth Odell, Chiara Dolcino, Lauren Flieder, Bruce Alleyne Mary Miller.

Guest: John Mercier

City Staff: David Gill, Chip Chelsey, Chris Jacques, Doug Woodward

Request for field space for new football league

David Gill, Acting Recreation Director passed out a letter from Todd Haywood. Todd is requesting use of several fields for a new football league that would like to start in August 2007. David explained to the group that he will be meeting with Todd to discuss his field request. David mentioned there is very limited space for current leagues and finding space for a new league will be hard to accomplish. Chris Jacques agreed. David will report back to the committee after his meeting with Todd.

Construction of Practice Football Field (dog pound)

Chris Jacques discussed briefly the city may be re-surfacing the practice football field at Memorial Field (dog pound). He is currently working with the school district and the recreation department to help find practice areas for the displaced teams. This project would cause the field to be closed all of next year which could displace Concord School District, Bishop Brady, and youth football teams.

7th and 8th Grade request to play in basketball League

David Gill, passed out a copy of an email he received from a parent whose child goes to Merrimack Valley Middle School who was recently cut for the team. She has a team of 12, 7th and 8th grade girls who have been cut and do not have a league to play in. Several of the girls do not live in Concord or Penacook. David explain that he would not have a problem accepting one team into the league as long as they agree to play by our league rules and they follow the same guidelines as St John school which also plays in the Concord Rec basketball Leagues. Residents will pay \$30 while non residents will pay \$55. Several members discussed the concern this could open the door to more non-residents asking to play. The committee agreed this would be a one year agreement. David said he would set up a meeting with the lady and discuss our philosophy and rules to her.

CIP – project for White Park

Doug Woodward passed out a copy of the CIP project for White Park which was in last year's budget. Several committee members explained they could not decide on this project until they see all park CIP projects. Doug reviewed the form and explained there is currently \$180,000 from a previous year that will be applied to the White Park CIP. He stated there needs to be \$660,000 in addition to the \$180,000 for parking lot construction, new ball field and design for possible new skate house and recreation office. There was a lengthy discussion on how this park was selected and some concerns that the group still has to prioritize all mini-master plan projects. Jim Bouley asked if the city could provide a list off all park and facilities CIP projects in the current budget and then the CIP request for the new budget. David agreed to gather all the information and will mail the information to all members before the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, Dec 15.

Several members asked what the status of the Heights Community center project was and if that will be included in the CIP project. David will meet with Roger Hawk to find out final status of the report and if anything will be included in the new CIP requests.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 15 at 5 pm at the COMF. This meeting could go two hours depending on how many questions there are on the CIP projects

Respectfully submitted

David Gill
Acting Recreation Director